



# Land/Water Stewardship Watershed Steward Training Application

Thank you for your interest in the WSU Cooperative Extension King County Land/Water Stewardship Program. The program is now in its fourteenth year. Land/Water Stewards are trained volunteers who help others make educated choices about the use of our land and water resources. Selected individuals will receive 70+ hours of training about watersheds and their resources.

The training emphasizes practical watershed stewardship, and will focus on the connections between urban, rural, and wild landscapes of King County. Topics will include watershed geology, hydrology, forest resources, wetlands, wildlife, farm land, interactions between people and watersheds, and much more. Classroom and field training is provided by a wide array of presenters from Cooperative Extension, public agencies, private concerns and citizen organizations. In return for the training, stewards agree to provide a minimum of 70 hours of volunteer outreach to residents of King County.

The training will be held in Renton, Washington every Friday from April 4 through May 30, 2003. Field trips will be held on two Saturdays. Classroom and field sessions run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$25 to cover materials and some transportation.

Questions? Call Paul Racette at 206-205-3171 or Sylvia Kantor at 206-205-3131. Outside the Seattle calling area, dial toll-free 1-800-325-6165, ext. 5-3171 or email [paul.racette@metrokc.gov](mailto:paul.racette@metrokc.gov)

The **application deadline is 4:00 p.m. on February 21, 2003**. Please examine the application materials carefully. If you have any doubt about your ability to make the commitment to the training or service, please consider applying another time. Applications may be faxed or e-mailed, but an original, signed copy must be submitted before classes begin. After the initial selection, **you may be invited for a morning or afternoon interview during the weeks of either March 3 or 10, 2003**.

Materials are available in alternate format by calling  
Paul Racette 206-205-3171 or 206-205-3100 711 (TTY relay), or email  
[paul.racette@metrokc.gov](mailto:paul.racette@metrokc.gov).

## **Some commonly asked questions:**

### ***What kind of people are you looking for? Do I have to be a professional ecologist or an environmental activist?***

We are looking for King County residents who care about the land, water, and other natural resources. We have found that people with previous volunteer experience and commitment succeed as land/water stewards. You must be willing and able to make the major commitment of time necessary to complete the training and service. Volunteers vary greatly in age and occupation, as well as their personal beliefs toward environmental regulations.

### ***How technical is the training?***

This is not a technical training, although it does include certain technical elements. We want to give volunteers the basic understanding of natural and related human systems. You don't need to be a scientist but you do have to be willing to read, study and actively participate.

### ***Why do you have the training on weekdays?***

Due to the number of hours involved in the training and the availability of outside speakers, we must have the training take place on a weekday.

### ***If I can't make this training, when will you have another?***

Land/Water Stewardship Volunteer Trainings are held dependent on available staff and other resources. Historically the training has been held just once a year in the spring, so you will likely have to wait a full year to apply again. If you are on the WSU Cooperative Extension Land/Water Stewardship interest list, you will be notified of upcoming trainings as well as related conferences, workshops and items of interest. You can also check our web site at <http://www.metrokc.gov/wsucce> and click on the Natural Resources section for an index to our programs.

### ***Will I get university credit for the training?***

No. Even though the training is comprehensive, we are not able to issue credit for this training. This training is meant to prepare you for volunteer service.

### ***Can I get Cooperative Extension to verify that I took the training so I can get credit for a course I'm taking or for consideration of a job that I am applying for?***

We will be happy to supply references but only at the completion of the minimum service commitment.

### ***What will the training cost?***

A \$25 fee will be charged to cover the cost of materials and some transportation. There may also be other incidental costs associated with any class such as food, transportation etc.

### ***I don't live in King County, but I work there. Can I be in the program?***

Preference is given to King County residents. If you live in another county you should contact your local WSU Cooperative Extension office regarding the availability of

similar programs. If you qualify and we have room in the class, we can accept you if you plan to do the majority of your service hours within King and Pierce County.

### ***How many people will be selected?***

Since this training involves a lot of participation and interaction the class size is limited to 20 people.

### ***Why do I need to come in for an interview?***

We usually receive many more applications than we have training slots. The brief time together gives Land/Water Stewardship Program staff a chance to learn more about you. The interview gives you the chance to ask detailed questions about the program, which will be a major commitment of your time and energy.

### ***I can't attend all the sessions. Does it matter?***

Yes, it does matter. Each session provides valuable information that is not available in any other form. You will meet people who can help your understanding of various subjects and assist you when it comes time to work on projects. If you miss sessions, for whatever reason, you may be asked to terminate the program and reapply to a subsequent training when you will be able to attend.

### ***I don't like public speaking. Does this mean I shouldn't apply?***

Public speaking is only one way to educate people; there are many other ways. Each volunteer will develop, in conjunction with program staff, an individualized volunteer service plan that fits well with who they know, what they know and how they prefer to work.

### ***What type of educational volunteer service do Land/Water Stewardship Volunteers perform?***

Most stewards work within their community, workplace, clubs and associations, place of worship, etc. Some also help with public education booths at fairs and other community events. Volunteers also work with groups who call the office requesting volunteers for their education projects. Other stewards help out in the Land /Water Stewardship office or assist in developing trainings and workshops. Some volunteers have worked on publications, web pages, slide shows and other educational products. Volunteers also develop interpretive sites or organize field trips and nature walks. The possibilities are limited only by imagination.

### ***Will the program assist me in my educational service?***

The Land/Water Stewardship program staff want to help you as much as needed so you can be a successful volunteer.

### ***What happens after I finish my minimum educational service obligation?***

It is hoped that you will, like most other stewards, continue with your service. There is no limit to your involvement!

**Land/Water Stewardship Volunteer Application (2003)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

1) How would you describe the area where you live?    ☐ Urban    ☐ Suburban    ☐ Rural

2) What is your occupation? \_\_\_\_\_

3) What education and training have you received?

---

---

4) How will your previous experience or education help you be an effective leader and educator, including working with youth or diverse adult audiences? (This may include volunteer experience)

---

---

---

5) What do you think is the role of education in protecting land and water resources in King County?

---

---

---

---

6) Why do you want to be a Land/Water Steward Volunteer?

---

---

---

---

7) What are you most interested in learning during the volunteer training?

---

---

---

---

More....

8) Stewards have the most success when they are members of groups to involve in education or projects. What clubs, associations, neighborhoods, churches or other groups in which you have membership would benefit from you becoming a Land/Water Steward Volunteer? Have you volunteered before for natural resource or other related work activities?

---

9) After having examined the training schedule (see cover document), are there any sessions you think you will be unable to attend? Please explain.

---

10) What commitments do you have that would affect your availability for volunteer service?

---

11) We are coordinating our training with agencies and organizations that have specific needs for volunteers to take educational and leadership roles. As a result, we are targeting a portion of our recruitment towards (a) salmon recovery efforts in King County, (b) a land, food, and the environment education program, and (c) other WSU Cooperative Extension Land/Water Stewardship Program initiatives. Please check any statements that represent your preferences:

- ☐ I live in Seattle and wish to volunteer in City programs.
- ☐ I live within the \_\_\_\_\_ watershed and wish to volunteer in programs in that area.
- ☐ I am willing (for all or part of my hours) to accept assignment to a volunteer activity or location.
- ☐ I wish to determine my own volunteer projects. Here is a description of what I might like to do:
- 

12) How did you hear about the Land/Water Stewardship Volunteer Program?

---

I understand that if I am accepted as a volunteer with the Land/Water Stewardship program I will be expected to attend all training sessions. At the completion of training I fully intend to fulfill a minimum of 70 hours of volunteer service, up to ten (10) of which will be assigned to me by mutual agreement. I understand I may not begin my service until I have met at least once with the staff to discuss my volunteer service.

signed \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Completed and signed applications must be returned to the WSU Cooperative Extension office by **4:00 p.m., Friday, February 21, 2003**. Our address is:

WSU Cooperative Extension King County  
Land/Water Stewardship Program  
919 SW Grady Way, Suite 120  
Renton, WA 98055-2980

[paul.racette@metrokc.gov](mailto:paul.racette@metrokc.gov) or fax: 206-296-0952

Faxed and email applications are accepted prior to the deadline, but a signed original must also be submitted before classes begin on April 4, 2003.